

# Fight for Stalingrad Rages

## Our Daily Bread

Sliced Thin by The Editor

ALEX. H. WASHBURN

Where Hitler Stands

in Germany's Heart

While reading a book the other night I came across a startling passage. It was a German's philosophy on why and when a man should become a soldier — and today Hitler would have put the author before a firing squad had he not been dead these two hundred years.

The book was a play, "Minna von Barnhelm" (or, "The Soldier's Luck") written by Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, one of Germany's greatest dramatists, about 1760.

The Harvard Classics editor, Dr. Charles W. Eliot, wrote of Lessing in the introductory note:

"The importance of Lessing's masterpiece in comedy, 'Minna von Barnhelm,' is difficult to exaggerate. It was the beginning of German national drama; and by the patriotic ground, by its sympathetic treatment of the German soldier and the German woman it won a place in the national heart from which no succeeding comedy has been able to dislodge it."

The passage that started me in the play was where Major von Tellerbach, a discharged German army officer, was updating his old sergeant, Paul Werner, on his thinking about returning to the army. Here is the major's speech:

"I, Major Tellerbach, do not force you to think of it, Werner! You have sold your farm, and wish to rove about again. Do not let me suppose that you do not love the profession of arms so much as the world dissolves a way of living which is unfortunately connected with it. A man should be a soldier for his own country, or from love of the cause, or from love of the soldier, or from love of the fight. To serve without any purpose—today here, tomorrow there—is only the apprentice of a butcher's shop. Our United Nations never laid against modern Germany so grave a charge as this, written by one of her greatest authors nearly 200 years ago, and studied by German schoolboys ever since."

For the German soldier today has become a very traveling butcher's apprentice, which Lessing had his hero despise.

Lessing's book, I imagine, is not available in modern Germany. But if it were, it would be hard to kill off entirely. After reading Lessing's great play you understand why a host of Germans fled to America in 1848, and why even today Hitler finds it necessary to execute or imprison great numbers of his own people behind the war front.

Yet this does not alter the fact that modern Germany, particularly the Hitler-taught youth of modern Germany is quite different from the Germany Lessing talks about. The German we see even today is a different man from the German we see in Lessing's great play. The German we see today is a different man from the German we see in Lessing's great play. The German we see today is a different man from the German we see in Lessing's great play.

## U. S. Convoy Arrives Safely

London, Aug. 24 —(AP)—The arrival of still another American convoy — the greatest yet — with more thousands of fighting — it is estimated — troops stirred British observers and troops to speculation on a second front.

The size of the convoy, so large that it laden troops and transports scattered to many British ports to unload men and weapons — dispersed among waiting American ships — indicated only partly for the predictions of second front possibilities.

Britons noted also the preparedness of the Americans for absorbing reinforcements, the front-line troops of the men sent to this war theater, the material which accompanied them, the variety of branches they represented, the emphasis on air strength in both men and supplies and the psychological moment of their arrival.

The announcement that the vast sea train disgorged new fighting strength on British soil came while London papers were filled with comment analyzing Prime Minister Churchill's recent mission to Moscow and calling last week's battle of Dieppe only a port of things to come.

## N. J. Ramsey, 80, Dies

### Not Decature, Illinois

N. J. Ramsey, aged 80, father of W. M. Ramsey, proprietor of the Checkered Cafe here, died at 8:25 p. m. Saturday at his home in Decatur, Ill., after a year's illness. The son left Hope Sunday morning for Decatur, where he will attend the funeral services Tuesday.

The elder Ramsey, who would have celebrated his 85th birthday anniversary next November 25, is survived by his widow and three sons and three daughters.

W. M. Ramsey of Hope, Poe 1, and Loyal Ramsey of Decatur, Ill.; Mrs. Roy Scaffus and Mrs. Cleve Foltz, of Decatur; and Mrs. Fred Elliott of Redmon, Ill.

## Brazil on War Footing; Seizes Axis Nationals

Rio De Janeiro, Aug. 24 —(AP)—The government moved to put Brazil on a full war footing today, tightening its control over German and Italian nationals and taking special precautions against a possible attack by Axis submarines known to be lurking off this country's long coastline.

Salvador demonstrations which accompanied Brazil's entry into the war yesterday and there was widespread speculation that they might attempt to shell some point in the emulsion of the Japanese submarine which ineffectually bombarded the Santa Barbara area on the United States west coast several months ago.

In Sergipe state, south of Natal, the government demonstrated its awareness of this possibility by ordering a total blackout of the city of Aracaju, decreeing a 10 p. m. curfew and ordering state police to duty to improve the coast watch. Partial blackouts were enforced elsewhere.

In Rio De Janeiro the bright beams of searchlights swept over the beautiful harbor during the night to expose possible intruders. A desire for closest cooperation with the United States in military and economic matters was evident in official quarters, which obviously were preparing for a long, hard war.

Informed sources said War Minister General Eurico Gaspar Dutra, Navy Minister Admiral Aristides Guilhem and Air Minister Joaquim Salgado, Jr., already were planning new moves to build up the navy. It was expected that some light would be cast on these plans after the first meeting of the war cabinet, which will meet weekly for the duration under President Getulio Vargas.

## Soldiers May Get to Vote

Washington, Aug. 24 —(AP)—The way was cleared for Senate action today on a bill giving service men the wartime privilege of voting by mail in national elections for senators, representatives and presidential electors.

Democratic Leader Barkley of Kentucky called absent members back to their desks to answer a quorum call and a weekend compromise eliminated objections which Senator George (D-Ga.) had voiced against the measure.

George, meanwhile announced, of which he is chairman, would plunge immediately into the controversial income tax question when it meets in closed session today to begin an item-by-item study of the new revenue bill.

Under the compromise worked out over the weekend, any member of the armed forces stationed within the continental United States who is eligible to register and vote by mail may vote by absentee ballot under supervision of the secretaries of war and navy.

## Americans to Have Turkey Thanksgiving

Melbourne, Australia, Aug. 24 —(AP)—The long-range view of this global war already is focussed on the Thanksgiving Turkey situation for United States troops in Australia.

The Turkey population of Australia has been found inadequate and arrangements have been made to have a refrigerated cargo ship head here from the United States.

## Kaiser, Hughes Team to Build Transport Planes

San Francisco, Aug. 24 —(AP)—Two bold and dynamic west coast builders, Henry J. Kaiser and 36-year-old Howard Hughes, put to special their skills and their vast resources today to construct 500 transport planes to beat the Axis' submarine war.

Kaiser is a master shipbuilder. He explained his cargo carrier plan to Washington officials recently, arousing national interest. He said he could get men and metals, and he had ordered the war contract for Hughes' design No. 2. He had a staff of 800 skilled aeronautical and design engineers in the Kaiser-Hughes combination.

## Axis Raiders Shift to South

Axis surface and undersea raiders in an apparent shift of operations to southern waters were disclosed last week to have sunk 13 more merchantmen to swell to 439 the announced wartime toll of Allied and neutral victims in the western Atlantic area as tabulated by the Associated Press.

Six British vessels, four British, one American, one Panamanian and one Swedish were announced destroyed in the Caribbean and off South America with a death toll of more than 640 troops, seamen and passengers. At least 550 persons were rescued, however.

## Local Gridders Start Training

Members of last season's football squad and new candidates for positions on the team will start training today at the high school under the supervision of Coach Foy Hammmons, who is taking an aviation course at Texarkana which he will teach this season, will not be able to meet with the squad until September 5.

## Flashes of Life

By the Associated Press

Beanpoles barred.

New York — The army doesn't want 22-year-old Eugene Pape, Jr., either as a draftee or a volunteer, he thinks his reject was a pretty lean deal.

## Reports Execution of 35 Czechs, Croats, Slovenes by Nazis in Reprisals

London, Aug. 24 —(AP)—The execution of 35 more Czechs, Croats and Slovenes by the Germans and Italians was reported today with accompanying threats that ten hostages would be killed for each new assault in occupied Croatia.

The Czech government in London reported that two patriots, Vladislav Brzda of Cersene and Frantisek Janik of Preory, were put to death for "treasonably favoring the enemy, possessing arms and sheltering in their flats persons wanted by the Gestapo."

## China Retakes 25 Known Dead Some Positions in Air Crashes

Chungking, Aug. 24 —(AP)—Chinese forces have captured Linchuan (Yuchow) in central Kiangsi, second most important Japanese base in the province, the Chinese high command announced tonight.

The navy said 11 men were known to have been aboard a navy patrol plane that crashed last night in a field near Dahlgren, Va., and that there may have been a 12th victim.

## Nine Firms Are Indicted

Washington, Aug. 24 —(AP)—The Justice Department announced today the indictment of nine companies and six of their officers on charges of conspiring to defraud the government in connection with the sale of more than \$50,000 of inflated cables to the navy.

## Sen. McClellan Spent \$9,563

Little Rock, Aug. 24 —(AP)—John L. McClellan testified to the secretary of state's office today he spent \$9,563.55 in his successful campaign for the Democratic senatorial nomination at the July 28 and Aug. 11 primaries.

## AFL Group Allowed to Organize Men

Little Rock, Aug. 24 —(AP)—A temporary order issued by U. S. District Judge T. C. Trimble restrained Lawrence County Sheriff W. W. Archer and Walnut Ridge City Marshal W. N. Buchanan today from interfering with efforts of three American Federation of Labor workers at an aviation school project near Walnut Ridge.

## Two Killed in State Over the Week-End

Little Rock, Aug. 24 —(AP)—Two violent deaths were reported in Arkansas over the week-end.

## Nazis Advance Despite Terrific Loss of Troops

By JAMES M. LONG

Associated Press War Editor

Adolf Hitler's 1942 drive to the southeast which started at Kharkov two months ago drew portentously toward its supreme test today in the fiercely defended Don and the Volga and in the spurs of the Caucasian mountains 100 miles from the Grozny oilfield and only 200 from the Caspian sea.

Sapped by staggering losses, but yet to be checked, the onslaught in these two months had rolled almost 350 miles due east, and fully 500 miles southward, and appeared as the Nazis' 1941 thrust across the Carpathian mountain frontier of Rumania.

The Russians acknowledged that their defenses had been bent further back northwest and southwest of Stalingrad where they determined to make another stand such as saved Leningrad and Moscow.

One major test was shaping up on the east bank of the Don where the Germans won a new bridgehead in terrific fighting southwest of Kletskaya, perhaps no more than 500 miles from the city named for Premier Stalin.

A Soviet communiqué said Russian troops were fighting a vicious battle southwest of Stalingrad with a German tank column which pierced into Russian defenses from the Kotelnikovsky Salient, also beyond the Don.

Russian dispatches pointed out that the Don is less than 500 yards wide at the bend and said the slow-flowing river water would constitute only a minor barrier to reinforcements if the Germans were able to widen their foothold on the east bank.

The German high command said it pressed a steady advance through strongly constructed enemy defense positions.

"German dispatches quoted a Berlin foreign office spokesman as saying 'the great and decisive battle for Stalingrad has now begun.' Further north along the Don and on battlefronts northwest and southwest of Moscow the Germans acknowledged that the Russians had the initiative, but said the Red Army's assaults were repulsed."

The Battle of the Caucasus had pressed Russian forces without defense of Pyatigorsk to a new defensive line guarding the way to Grozny, producing center of approximately 15 per cent of Russia's oil.

One hundred miles beyond Grozny the Caucasus rail and oil pipe lines turn south along the shores of the Caspian, through the ancient Caravan pass between the sea and the mountains to the great oil region of Baku.











